WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

A nucleic acid comprising bases 89-1060 of SEQ ID NO:1.

- 2. An isolated protein consisting of an amino acid sequence shown by SEQ ID NO:2.
- An isolated protein at least 70% homologous to said protein of claim 2.
- 4. A nucleic acid encoding the protein of claim 3.

A transgenic plant comprising the nucleic acid of claim 4.

A transgenic plant cell comprising the nucleic acid of claim 4.

- 7. A method of growing a plant comprising transforming said plant with the nucleic acid of claim 4 and growing said plant wherein said plant will grow larger than a wild-type plant.
- 8. The method of claim 7 wherein said nucleic acid is controlled by a glucocorticoid activated promoter.
- 9. The method of claim 8 wherein said plant is treated with a glucocorticoid.
- 10. The method of claim 9 wherein said glucocorticoid is dexamethasone.
- 11. A method of growing a genetically altered plant larger than a wild-type version of said plant comprising overexpressing NAC1 in said altered plant.
- 12. The method of claim 11 wherein said plant produces larger leaves than said wild-type version.
- 13. The method of claim 11 wherein said plant produces larger roots than said wild-type version.
- 14. The method of claim 11 wherein said plant produces more lateral roots than said wild-type version.
- 15. A method of growing a genetically altered plant larger than a wild-type version of said plant comprising overexpressing a protein of claim 3 in said altered plant.
- 16. The method of claim 15 wherein said plant produces larger leaves than said wild-type version.
- 17. The method of claim 15 wherein said plant produces larger roots than said wild-type version.
- 18. The method of claim 15 wherein said plant produces more lateral roots than said wild-type version.
- 19. A transgenic plant made by inserting a nucleic acid of claim 4 into a wild-type plant.